



**Commission for Women
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
November 3, 2010**

The Commission for Women convened in a regular meeting on November 3, 2010 at City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street, Room #1101 in Austin, Texas.

Chair Laurie Felker Jones called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Angela Frederick, Kim Skotak, Amy Welborn, Veronica Garcia and Marilyn Bostick.

Staff in Attendance: Terri Kerr (on behalf of Karen Sharp) and Carla Johnson

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES-** Commissioner Welborn moved to accept the minutes of October 6, 2010 as written; motion seconded by Commissioner Frederick and minutes approved.

2. **OLD Business**

a. October Event of ACW in collaboration with Safe Place on “Banding Together Against Domestic Violence” which was held at City Hall (Atrium) October 19, 2010 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. A total of 200 invitations were sent out to local women, elected officials and businesses of the community for this free event. A total of 40 people showed up for this event.

3. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Discussion of Women’s Hall of Fame**

San Antonio Commission for Woman annually hosts an event “Recognizing Women in the Community.” This would be a great idea for the ACW to start doing recognition of women within leadership roles in the City of Austin. ACW could take this on, as an annual event on a smaller scale. Commissioner Garcia will email background/structure information to the committee. Commissioners Skotak and Frederick will partner on this event.

2. **Update: We Are Girls Conference**

Conference held on Saturday, November 6, 2010. ACW is sponsoring the VIP luncheon and the workshop as well. The workshop will be held at 12:45 to 2:00. Commissioner Frederick and her two interns are handling the workshop which is called Girls Make a Difference, discussions are leaning to see differences as a positive. This event will be held at the Ann Richards School.

3. Briefing of Girls Truancy

(Judge Statman could not attend) Commissioner Welborn briefly discussed a large percentage of girls who skip school are the ones that end up pregnant. Root cause identified as low self-esteem and a lack of guidance. ACW is hoping to find mentors for these girls, provide programs and give them some type of guidance before they are placed in the system. Teaching these young girls how to promote themselves by boosting their self-esteem would be the goal. A group backing these programs from Justice of Peace Courts is GenAustin. ACW hopes to get other groups involved as well as young professional women on a volunteer basis. Commissioner Welborn will try to see if the Judge can come in the month of December to give ACW a more extensive background on this issue.

4. Review Quality of Life Survey

Chair Jones passed out a CD with San Antonio Study on it. Chair Jones has spoken with a professor with University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA). They discussed the study at length. After reviewing Austin's quality of life study for African American and Hispanics the committee felt a need to understand this survey. Chair Jones has requested each commissioner discuss this initiative with their individual Council Members to see what budget could support this. This will come out of. This will have to come out of a city budget if we want to pursue this. Julio Gonzalez is willing to guide us on this piece. Chair Jones moved to have on next month's agenda to revisit to see who would like to take the lead. Commissioner Frederick seconded.

5. Alignment of Position

Chair Jones is resigning from ACW. Elections of new offices are:

Commissioner Angela Fredrick – Chair (approved by Commissioners Jones and Skotak)

Commissioner Veronica Garcia – Vice-Chair (approved by Commissioners Jones and Skotak)

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: None

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS: None.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS- Update on We Are Girls Conference, discussion of women's hall of fame, briefing of Girls Truancy, review of quality of life survey and partnership with UT Group.

8. ADJOURN: Commissioner Garcia moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:29 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Frederick without objection.